

Message Text

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PAGE 01 RANGOO 01268 101037Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11
IO-13 OES-07 HEW-04 AID-05 /095 W
-----068972 101549Z /50
R 101003Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY RANGOON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5207
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

C O N F I D E N T I A L RANGOON 1268

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR, SNAR, BM, TH
SUBJECT: THAI-BURMA RELATIONS

REF: RANGOON 977

1. ACCORDING TO THE LOCAL WHO DIRECTOR, THE GUB HAS UNEXPECTEDLY ACCEPTED A THAI INVITATION TO SEND A PARTICIPANT TO A FORTHCOMING RTG-SPONSORED MEETING ON POPULATION CONTROL IN SOUTH AND SOUTH-EAST ASIA.

2. COMMENT: SUCH DECISIONS ARE NOT MADE LIGHTLY OR ROUTINELY IN BURMA. A FEW MONTHS ATO, IT WOULD HAVE BEEN HIGHLY UNLIKELY THAT THE BURMESE WOULD SEND ANYONE TO AFOMLSND OF MEETING SPONSORED BY THE RTG. THEREFORE, THIS MOVE PROBABLY REFLECTS A FAIRLY RECENT DECISION BY THE GUB (I.E., NE WIN) TO BE MORE FRIENDLY WITH THE THAI, OR AT LEAST TO BE RECEPTIVE TO THAI OVERTURES FOR IMPROVED RELATIONS. IT IS ALSO CONSISTENT WITH THE POLICY SHIFT WE HAVE DETECTED (REFTEL) AWAY FROM AVID COURTSHIP OF THE CHINESE AND TOWARD BUILDING BETTER TIES WITH NON-COMMUNIST NEIGHBORS AND THE WEST.
BEAN

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Message Attributes

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